



**PIERLUISI: PROUD TO REPRESENT PUERTO RICO
AT THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS
*Saturday, April 18, 2009***

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD- Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi was pleased to represent Puerto Rico as part of the US Congressional Delegation at the fifth Summit of the Americas. As part of their agenda, the Congressional delegation will hold a meeting with President Barack Obama. Additionally, Congressman Pierluisi also had the opportunity to meet with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

"The vast majority of Puerto Ricans cherish their citizenship and their relationship with the United States, they appreciate that I am here as part of the U.S. delegation, and they have no doubts whatsoever that their interests go hand in hand with the interests of their fellow Americans before the international organizations," said Congressman Pierluisi.

In the midst of a hearing attended by the US Congressional Delegation, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) Jose Miguel Insulza, and about other 50 foreign dignitaries and diplomats, Congressman Pierluisi expressed pride in being Puerto Rico's sole representative.

The Congressional Delegation, including Congressman Pierluisi, had the opportunity to meet with the presidents of various Latin American Countries. Among the dignitaries with whom they met were the President of El Salvador, Elias Antonio Saca, President-elect of El Salvador, Mauricio Funes, and the President of Panama, Martin Torrijos.

Additionally, Congressman Pierluisi held separate meetings with the President of Chile, Michelle Bachelet; the President of Uruguay, Tabare Vazquez; the President of Honduras Manuel Zelaya; the President of Ecuador, Manuel Correa; the President of Haiti, Rene Preval; the President of Paraguay Fernando Lugo; and the President of Mexico, Felipe Calderon.

Pierluisi also had informal talks with Colombian President Alvaro Uribe, as well as Guatemalan President Alvaro Colom.

<http://pierluisi.house.gov>